

Salutations to everyone in Navy Medicine and the Hospital Corps!

Very exciting times over the weeks! Sailors of Year boards are going on as we speak, the cream of the crop is here representing from all over Navy Medicine!

1. Congratulations goes out to the last Advanced Dental Assistant (8702) class! So glad to have the opportunity to be your guest speaker, and what a privilege to spend some time with everyone in sunny California. Go and train your Sailors, remember repetition is key in learning and executing your craft.

2. Over the next year, there will be a turnover of ETLs in the following NECs. To be considered for the position, submit your packages to HMC Casiano at Leonor.m.casiano.mil@mail.mil
NECs: 8404, 8486, 8493/94, 8496, 8503

3. Leadership and Command Career Counselors, there is a new handbook which provides the CCC necessary tools to develop, implement and direct an effective career development program.
<http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/career/careercounseling/Documents/BUPERS%20CAREER%20COUNSELOR%20HANDBOOK%20JAN%202017.pdf>

4. The Joint Surgical Combat Casualty Care Membership Committee is in need of a senior Surgical Technologist with extensive Role 2 Surgical Tech experience. The committee's intent is to set standards for future operational surgical training, readiness and capabilities across the DoD. Send nominations with a formal CV no later than 10 January 2017 to our Lead Hospital Corps Planner at david.j.walker2.mil@mail.mil

5. Congratulations to the following Sailors on their selection to the Navy Dental Hygienist Program!

Pensacola State College

HN Fozettiako, Alain	WRNMMC
HM2 Fluellen, Charnita	BHC Norfolk
HM3 Gurung, Kiran	NHC Quantico
HM3 Smith, Alyssa	NH Jacksonville
HM3 Waldron, Keon	NMC Portsmouth
Coastal Carolina Community College	
HM3 Bills, Stacy	USS Nitze (DDG 94)
HN Cox, Sydnee	BHC Norfolk
HM1 Richardson, Damien	NMC Portsmouth
HM3 Wungow, Joe	NH Rota Spain

Additional information on requirements, please contact the Navy Dental Hygienist Program Manager at usn.jbsa.navmededtrncmdsattx.mbx.dental-hygiene-program-manager@mail.mil

6. In remembrance:

HM2 Kyler Estrada, 11th MEU (12FEB12)
HN Lucas Emch, 1st MLG, I MEF (02MAR07)

You will never be forgotten!

7. These dedicated Navy leaders will go ashore in the next two weeks - All of us hope the next chapter of your lives is even more rewarding. Fair winds and following seas to:
HMC James Ward (2nd MEF) 24 February 2017
HMC William Monroe (NH Pensacola) 24 February 2017

8. Little history: Caron joined the Navy from Boston, Massachusetts in July 1966. On July 28, 1968, was a hospital corpsman third class (E-4) serving as a Hospital Corpsman attached to the Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, (Kilo 3/7) 1st Marine Division (Reinforced), FMF. During a firefight on that day, in Quảng Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam, Caron was repeatedly wounded while he moved between fallen Marines, rendering aid to each, but continued his rounds until being killed by enemy fire.[]

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as platoon corpsman with Company K, during combat operations against enemy forces."

I realize it's been less than 30 days into the year 2017, but things are moving fast! I continue to look forward to this year's challenges which are given to us every day by our leadership, junior Sailors and our patients. Many of us are preparing to deploy or are already deployed; maintain focus on your mission, continue to train yourself and your Sailors as you would have them enter the harshest conditions and meet every obstacle with optimism!